

State of Connecticut

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



COMMISSION ON CHILDREN

February 17, 2006

The following is a list of child-related bills introduced at the start of the 2006 General Assembly session:

HB-5010: AN ACT CONCERNING COMPENSATION FOR ATTORNEYS AND TRAINING FOR JUDGES IN CHILD PROTECTION PROCEEDINGS. (LCO# 645)

This act would require training for judges in juvenile matters to understand and implement better results from juvenile proceedings. This act would also amend the compensation for attorneys in juvenile matters.

HB-5011: AN ACT EXTENDING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE TO FOSTER PARENTS WHO ARE STATE EMPLOYEES. (LCO# 644)

This act would provide a leave of absence for state employees due to serious illness of a foster child. A provision to this act would be that the leave does not exceed four weeks during any year period.

HB-5017: AN ACT CONCERNING WAIVER OF STATE PARK FEES FOR FOSTER PARENTS. (LCO# 662)

This act would waive the fees for state parks to any licensed foster parent. All fees waived would include parking, admission, and boat access fees.

HB-5024: AN ACT CONCERNING THE WORKFORCE READINESS OF THE JOBS FIRST PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. (LCO# 494)

This act would provide skills training to participants in Job First Employment Services. This act would also provide skills training to recipients of temporary family assistance.

HB-5094: AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL READINESS FUNDING FOR CHILDREN LIVING IN HOMELESS SHELTERS. (LCO# 339)

This is an act that concerns school readiness funding for children living in homeless shelters. This act will provide funding for school readiness programs for young children who reside in homeless shelters by amending section 10-253 of the general statutes.

HB-5106: AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT. (LCO# 395)

This is an act that will authorize bonds of the state to cover the expansion of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut in order to increase the capacity for services and reduce the waiting periods.

HB-5107: AN ACT CONCERNING THE BEYOND SHELTER PROGRAM. (LCO# 396)

This act will provide additional programs to end the cycle of homelessness for families. This act will also provide landlords with the support to help tenants remain table and lease compliant.

HB-5114: AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH CANCER. (LCO# 440)

This act will provide enhanced coverage under the HUSKY plan for children with cancer.

HB-5115: AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG ADULTS. (LCO# 757)

This act will increase programs for mental health in young adults.

HB-5137: AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION. (LCO# 1170)

This act would increase the funding to the early childhood education in order to increase the number of quality licensed care opportunities. This would benefit infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

HB-5149: AN ACT CONCERNING FIFTY ADDITIONAL SCHOOL READINESS SLOTS TO BE DESIGNATED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE SCHOOL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN ON ASYLUM HILL IN HARTFORD. (LCO# 919)

This act would provide 50 additional school readiness slots in an underserved section of Hartford. This would allow more children to have an opportunity to experience an excellent school readiness program in preparation for their future educational success.

HB-5209: AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTHFUL OFFENDER PROCEEDINGS. (LCO# 1472)

This act would revise the court procedures and make technical changes concerning youthful offenders.

HB-5213: AN ACT CONCERNING JUVENILE OFFENDERS. (LCO# 1153)

This act would make vocational probation available to children who are still in school. This act would also establish requirements regarding the erasure of records in juvenile cases that are handled nonjudicially. This would also ensure that the authority for and oversight of taking juveniles into custody remains within the purview of juvenile matters, judges, and juvenile probation officers. The judicial branch will be allowed to share information with the Department of Correction regarding juveniles who are transferred to the custody of said department, for the purpose of providing services to such juveniles.

HB-5251: AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD POVERTY COUNCIL RELATED TO JOB TRAINING AND CHILD WELLNESS. (LCO# 1463)

This act would utilize the recommendations of the Child Poverty Council in order to foster job training and refer individuals to programs established by the Nurturing Families

Network. This act would also provide a pilot program to any eligible person with a minor dependent access to training to obtain skills and credentials necessary to obtain and maintain employment.

HB-5252: AN ACT CONCERNING PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS. (LCO# 1442)

This act would require all boards of education to offer no less than 20 minutes for lunch for all full day students. This act would also mandate 20 minutes of exercise for children in grades K-5 for a full-day. Each board of education may establish a school district safety committee and a school wellness committee to increase safety awareness and to monitor physical activity policies.

HB-5253: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM ON THE DANGERS OF STEROID USE IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH. (LCO# 1278)

This act would establish and fund a public education and outreach program to inform adolescents about the dangers of illegal anabolic steroid use.

HB-5254: AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP OF THE STATE PREVENTION COUNCIL AND STATE AGENCY PREVENTION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES IN CRISIS. (LCO# 1462)

This act would amend the budgeting process related to state prevention services for children, youth, and families to require that certain budgetary benchmarks are met. This act would also expand the membership of the State Prevention Council.

HB-5276: AN ACT CONCERNING LAWN CARE PESTICIDES AT SCHOOLS. (LCO# 1389)

This act would extend the ban on the application of pesticides from preschools and elementary schools to all schools.

SB-30: AN ACT CONCERNING MEDIATION AND APPEALS IN TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS PROCEEDINGS. (LCO# 647)

This act would provide a mediation program to resolve termination of parental rights matters prior to a court proceeding on the merits. This act would also amend the procedures for appealing final judgments in the termination of parental rights proceedings in order to expedite the appeals process.

SB-144: AN ACT CONCERNING CONFIDENTIALITY OF AND ACCESS TO RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES. (LCO# 1450)

This act would revise and update laws relating to the confidentiality of, and access to, records maintained by the Department of Children and Families. This act would also emphasize that the name of the individual who reports abuse or neglect will be kept confidential, except in specific incidents. This act also lists the specific individuals and/or agencies who can request records without needing a signed release of records.

SB-159: AN ACT CONCERNING PERMANENCY PLANS FOR CHILDREN. (LCO# 1130)

This act would revise requirements and procedures concerning permanency plans for abused or neglected children who are in the custody of the Department of Children and Families.

SB-200: AN ACT CONCERNING GENDER SPECIFIC AND TRAUMA-INFORMED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES. (LCO# 1092)

This act states that behavioral health services and substance abuse services delivered or funded by the state shall be gender specific and trauma-informed. This act would also establish a competitive grant program to encourage best practices in gender specific and trauma-informed treatment programs and services.

SB-201: AN ACT CONCERNING THE BIRTH-TO-THREE PROGRAM. (LCO# 1464)

This act would amend criteria for eligibility and provider qualifications in the birth-to-three program.

SB-202: AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS. (LCO# 1441)

This act is a pilot program to provide in-classroom school breakfast. This act would also require severe needs schools with grades eight or lower to participate in the existing school breakfast program.

SB-203: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD POVERTY COUNCIL CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM. (LCO# 1465)

This act states the recommendations to the Child Poverty Council by amending the limitation and eligibility requirements under the temporary assistance for need families program for individuals participating in educational activities in order to promote self-sufficiency and child welfare.

SB-204: AN ACT PROMOTING THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS. (LCO# 1443)

This act encourages exercise and student wellness in schools by requiring boards of education to adopt guidelines to coordinate services and programs in order to address the physical, mental, social, and emotional needs of students.

SB-225: AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF THE DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY REPRESENTATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. (LCO# 1584)

This act would reduce the disproportionate minority representation in the juvenile justice system by expanding programs and services, for juveniles, that provide alternatives to incarceration and maximizing federal reimbursement and funding such programs and services.